

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

CD NO. *25X1A*

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 3 JAN 50

SUBJECT The United Front, Division of the Chinese Communist Party

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1X SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. The United Front (统一战线) is the external affairs department of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). Its duties include the entertainment of non-Communist "democratic personages," keeping close track of the movements and activities of such persons. The United Front also undertakes penetration of non-Communist parties and political groups.
2. The chief of the United Front is LI Wei-han (李维汉), also known as LO Mai (罗迈). His assistant is CH'U Ping. LI is responsible only to MAO Tse-tung and the CCP Central Committee for the operations of the United Front. The organization is widespread and has offices in all major cities. The local head of the government hostels in most places is invariably a member of the United Front.
3. The Communists instituted an economy drive in Peiping, one measure of which was the saving of electricity by eliminating much street lighting. LI was returning home late one evening and fell into an excavation in front of a public toilet. The fall caused him to break a leg and caused considerable amusement among the Peiping populace.

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Comment: The United Front appears to have many similarities to the Soviet Intourist.

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Class. Changed To: TS S <i>0</i>
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: <i>020678</i>

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